

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA ON MONDAY, MAY 2, 2005. THE MEETING CONVENED AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman George N. Brown, Jr.
Vice Chairman Perry L. Morris
Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen
Commissioner Bill Harper
Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
Commissioner M. Renée Sisk
Commissioner Leon C. Staton

STAFF PRESENT:

Harold Blizzard, County Manager
George B. Sawyer, Assistant County Manager
Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Officer
Ray H. Moser, Human Resources Director
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
James R. Sugg, County Attorney

Following an invocation by Commissioner Sampson and the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Morris moved to approve minutes of April 18, 2005, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution Supporting Continuation of Current Distribution Formula for Transportation Improvement Plan

Craven County Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, submitted the following resolution Supporting Continuation of Current Distribution Formula for Transportation Improvement Plan for the Board's approval. Commissioner Sampson moved for approval of the resolution, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONTINUATION OF THE EXISTING DISTRIBUTION FORMULA FOR FUNDS EXPENDED ON THE INTRASTATE SYSTEM AND TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Craven County Board of Commissioners is charged with providing for the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Craven County; and

WHEREAS, transportation improvements are critical to the economy of Craven County and the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Craven County; and

WHEREAS, the current DISTRIBUTION FORMULA FOR FUNDS EXPENDED ON THE INTRASTATE SYSTEM AND TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM recognizes the state-wide importance of completing the Intrastate System while balancing the transportation needs of the urban and rural areas of the State and equitably distributes funds accordingly; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1062 proposes to modify the DISTRIBUTION FORMULA by placing less significance on the completion of the Intrastate System and equity among distribution/funding regions, thus diverting a greater proportion of the funding to a few urban areas; and

WHEREAS, if ratified as proposed, this change in the DISTRIBUTION FORMULA will significantly decrease the funding allocated to the distribution/funding region in which Craven County is located which, consequently, will have a negative

impact on Craven County's economic vitality and the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the County;

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Craven County Board of Commissioner's supports the continuation of the current DISTRIBUTION FORMULA FOR FUNDS EXPENDED ON THE INTRASTATE SYSTEM AND TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM and opposes any effort, including but not limited to Senate Bill 1062, that attempts to modify the DISTRIBUTION FORMULA in a manner that adversely impacts the rural regions of the State of North Carolina.

Adopted this the 2nd day of May 2005.

Budget Amendments

Craven County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, submitted the following budget amendments for the Board's approval. Commissioner Sampson moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

HRSA 04-05 BT 05-299

REVENUES	AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
101-2313-348-93-00 HRSA BT 05-299	\$25,390.00	101-2313-410-73-21 C/O under \$5,000	\$25,390.00
TOTAL	\$25,390.00	TOTAL	\$25,390.00

Justification: Office of Emergency Med Services grant to cover PC's for the squads.

Health/BT Preparedness/Response

101-5010-348-00-00 State Grant	\$4,300	101-5010-440-26-01 Maint Repair/Bldg	\$800.00
		101-5010-440-40-0 Contractual Services	\$3,500.00
TOTAL	\$4,300.00	TOTAL	\$4,300.00

Justification: These funds were issued by the State Office of Public Health Preparedness & Response to cover any unmet needs funds will cover outstanding contractual invoices – all spending categories will be terminated by 5/14/05.

Health/Family Planning

101-6400-349-12-00 State Revenue/Family Planning	\$2,063.00	101-6400-440-32-40 Other Supplies	\$2,063.00
TOTAL	\$2,063.00	TOTAL	\$2,063.00

Justification: Additional State revenue which may be used for any family planning approved expense.

DSS 7221 Adult Services

101-7221-349-50-00 Med Trans/Adm	\$37,754.00	101-7221-450-39-20 Med Trans	\$22,500.00
101-000-399-01-00 Fund Balance	\$2,746.00	101-7221-450-39-25 Med CARTS	\$18,000.00
TOTAL	\$40,500.00	TOTAL	\$40,500.00

Justification: Due to increase in both cost and need in Medicaid Transportation, funds are needed to cover the remainder of the fiscal year in both regular Medicaid Transportation and CARTS Med. Transportation. Of the amount requested, \$1,200 is reimbursed at the Medicaid admin rate of 50% County match. The remaining \$56,800 is reimbursed with the Medicaid services rate which is currently 5.46% County match.

DSS/CARTS Gen'l Public Trans

JOURNAL ENTRY

101-7231-349-11-00	\$6,500.00	101-7026-348-26-00	\$6,500.00
Work First Trans		Gen'l Rural Pub	

Reallocate General Rural/Work First Transportation for FY 2005

Original 7231 \$11,810 7026 \$44,632

BUDGET AMENDMENT

101-7231-349-11-00	\$(6,500.00)	101-7231-450-39-38	\$(6,500.00)
Work First Trans		Work First Trans	
101-7026-348-26-00	\$6,500.00	101-7026-450-39-25	\$6,500.00
Gen'l Rural Pub		Craven	
101-7002-368-13-00	\$6,500.00	101-7002-450-31-01	\$6,500.00
Fr Gen'l Rural		Vehicle Exp	
TOTAL	\$6,500.00	TOTAL	\$6,500.00

Justification: Work First Transportation will underutilize funds which are needed by CARTS General Rural Public Transportation.

DSS 7291 Mandated Services

101-7291-349-42-00	\$330.00	101-7291-450-23-42	\$330.00
Share the Warmth		Share the Warmth	
TOTAL	\$330.00	TOTAL	\$330.00

Justification: Funds received from the State to assist with heating crisis. Funds are 100% State, no County match required.

DSS 7291 Mandated Services

101-7291-349-32-00	\$2,625.00	101-7291-450-23-03	\$2,625.00
Energy		CP&L	
TOTAL	\$2,625.00	TOTAL	\$2,625.00

Justification: Increase in funding for Carolina Power & Light received from the State. Funds are 100% State, no County match required.

Reserve/Social Services

371-0000-366-01-00	\$21,595.00	371-0571-400-97-01	\$21,595.00
Transfers In		To General Fund	
101-7201-366-07-00	\$21,595.00	101-7201-450-00-73-02	\$21,595.00
TOTAL	\$21,595.00	TOTAL	\$21,595.00

Justification: Budget reserve funds to be transferred to the general fund to cover Phase 2 of the wiring project at DSS.

Tax Releases and Refunds

Craven County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, submitted the following tax releases and refunds for the Board’s approval. Commissioner Sampson moved for their approval, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Credits

TAXPAYER NAME	TICKET #	AMOUNT
CRUZ, EPLAFANIO A DID NOT OWN 01/01/2004	2004-0011897	\$42.99
	1 – CREDIT MEMO	\$42.99

Refunds

HARPER, LEA ETHEL PROPERTY VACANT	2000-0021581	\$24.00
HARPER, LEA ETHEL PROPERTY VACANT	2001-0021746	\$35.52
HARPER, LEA ETHEL PROPERTY VACANT	2002-0022022	\$32.64
HARPER, LEA ETHEL PROPERTY VACANT	2003-0022135	\$35.04
HARPER, LEA ETHEL PROPERTY VACANT	2004-0022529	\$33.36
	5 – REFUND (S)	\$160.56

Tourism Proclamation

Convention and Visitors Bureau and Convention Center Director, Sandy Chamberlin, submitted the following proclamation requesting May 4, as “Tourism Day” in Craven County. Commissioner Sampson moved to adopt the proclamation, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**TOURISM DAY IN CRAVEN COUNTY
MAY 2005
BY THE CRAVEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, tourism and visitor-related spending in Craven County generate an economic impact of more than \$74 million annually; and

WHEREAS, travel related expenditures in Craven County produce over 960 jobs with a payroll of more than \$17.95 million annually; and

WHEREAS, tourism visitors to Craven County generate state tax receipts of over \$4.25 million and local tax receipts of \$1.79 million annually; and

WHEREAS, Craven County has a number of historic and natural resources that offer ample additional opportunity for future economic growth and impact including the Tryon Palace, the birthplace of Pepsi, numerous significant Civil War sites, the Croatan Forest, and MCAS Cherry Point; and

WHEREAS, Craven County is committed to enhancing its overall future economic prospects through additional waterfront development, superior entertainment and shopping opportunities, the Tryon Palace NC History Education Center and other such initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Craven County strives to be one of Eastern North Carolina's premier communities for tourism; and

WHEREAS, the County's business and tourism professionals will gather at the Tryon Palace on May 4, 2005, for a celebration of the County's growing tourism industry, including the unveiling of the County's new tourism strategic vision, presentations, exhibits and networking;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, Commissioners of the County of Craven, of the state of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 4, 2005, as "**TOURISM DAY**" in Craven County, North Carolina, and commend this observance to all of our citizens.

Adopted this 2nd day of May, 2005.

Older Americans Month Proclamation

The Board was requested to adopt the following proclamation honoring May as "Older Americans Month" in Craven County, as it does each year. Commissioner Sampson moved to adopt the following proclamation, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**OLDER AMERICANS MONTH
MAY 2005
A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, Craven County is home to more than fourteen thousand citizens aged 60 years or older; and

WHEREAS, the older Americans of Craven County are a vital part of our nation's demographic makeup; and

WHEREAS, older citizens are members of our community entitled to dignified, independent lives free from fears, myths, and misconceptions about aging; and

WHEREAS, each community in America must strive to recognize the contributions of our older citizens, understand and address their evolving needs, and support their caregivers; and

WHEREAS, our society is dependent upon intergenerational cooperation and support, and benefits from our collective efforts to serve older Americans and the people who love them; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the 40th anniversary of the passage of the Older Americans Act by the United States Congress;

NOW, THEREFORE WE, the Craven County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2005 as ***Older Americans Month***.

Adopted this 2nd day of May, 2005.

Blue Angels Resolution

The Board was requested to adopt the following resolution recognizing the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, Blue Angels, who will be performing at the 2005 Cherry Point Air Show. Commissioner Sampson moved for adoption of the following resolution recognizing the Blue Angels, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING U.S. NAVY
FLIGHT DEMONSTRATION SQUADRON
BLUE ANGELS**

WHEREAS, Craven County is proud to be the home of
Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point; and

WHEREAS, the Marine Corps and Craven County
have enjoyed a mutually supportive relationship for more than
60 years; and

WHEREAS, the Marine Corps serves as a symbol
of freedom and excellence in our local community, and the
Blue Angels represent its finest.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that
the Craven County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of
Craven County citizens, welcomes the Blue Angels on the
occasion of the MCAS Cherry Point 2005 Air Show,
and extends heartfelt appreciation.

Adopted this 2nd day of May, 2005.

**PUBLIC HEARING - 7:00 P.M. – ON CARTS RURAL OPERATING
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ROAP) GRANT**

At 7:05 p.m. Commissioner Sisk moved to go into public hearing, as advertised, to receive public comment on the submission for the Rural Operating Assistance Program (ROAP) grant. CARTS Transportation Coordinator, Phyllis Toler, provided a synopsis of the grant program, and explained that the three components of the program funded by the grant are the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Assistance Program, the Work First/Employment Program, and the Rural General Public Program. She advised the Board that the grant amount has been increased by approximately \$23,000. She emphasized that members of the general public are required to pay a minimum of 10% of transportation costs. The grant funds are used to supplement the cost.

There were no members of the public who wished to speak during the public hearing, and at 7:10 p.m. Commissioner Allen moved to close the public hearing and proceed with the submission, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

Janice Parys of Carolina Pines requested help from the Board again for seeking to have additional access to Carolina Pines subdivision established. She indicated that she had not had luck with petitions from the residents, which she had been directed to collect by the Board during her previous appearance.

Donald Pollock petitioned the Board concerning taxes charged on a property that had been destroyed by fire, and was subsequently demolished. County Tax Administrator, Ronnie Antry, advised Mr. Pollock and the Board that the Tax office should have been notified prior to December 31, 2004 in order to adjust the taxes for that year. The Tax office was not notified until January 2005. County Attorney, Jim Sugg, had researched the request and recommended that the Board had no authority to relieve the tax at this point. Commissioner Sampson asked the County Attorney to look at the statutes again and make sure that there is no relief possible.

CRAVEN AGING PLANNING BOARD FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Joy Doshier, Chair of the Craven Aging Planning Board Budget Committee, presented the Craven Aging Planning Board funding recommendations, as follows. She advised the Board that Commissioner Sampson and Alfreda Stout, of the Department of Social

Services, both serve on that Board, and both abstained from the voting during the Craven Aging Planning Board deliberations. The Board of Commissioners were requested to consider providing the match for the Senior Companion Program during their budget deliberations.

BUDGET REQUEST	HCCBG	10% Match	Grand Total
<i>Social Services</i>			
Care Management	\$73,228	\$8,136	\$81,364
In Home Level II	\$102,379	\$11,375	\$113,754
Congregate	\$69,345	\$7,705	\$77,050
Home Delvd	\$106,220	\$11,802	\$118,022
<i>CARTS</i>			
Transportation	\$63,817	\$7,091	\$70,908
<i>CC Health Hospice</i>			
In Home Level III	\$24,000	\$2,667	\$26,667
Senior Companion	\$14,595	\$1,622	\$16,217
TOTAL	\$453,584	\$50,398	\$503,982

The Craven Aging Planning Board also recommended closure of either the Senior Center in Havelock or the one in Harlowe due to low participation, and presented a spreadsheet with numbers to support the recommendation. There was no action on the recommendation.

MEDIATION CENTER PRESENTATION

Brenda Harris, Mediation Center Associate Director, and Lauri Kritz, Teen Court Coordinator, made an informational presentation on the Teen Court Program. They advised the Board that there are currently 56 students in Craven County serving with Teen Court. They presented 2004-2005 school year officers, Eric Beal, a junior at Havelock High School who has been involved with the program for four years and Jamie Bullock, a freshman at New Bern High School who is in her third year of participation. These students informed the Board of the benefits that they have seen as a result of working with the program, as well as the benefits to those they serve.

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET REQUEST

Superintendent of Schools, William Rivenbark, presented the proposed Board of Education budget for FY 2005-2006 and the funding request to the County. Assistant Superintendent, David Clifton, provided highlights of the major impact of the budget proposal, including:

- Projected 3% salary increase to be set by the General Assembly
- \$70,000 for matching funds contributions for retired contract teachers
- Projected 25% increase for major medical
- A request for a change in the teacher local supplement from \$1,500 to 4.5% of salary

Included in the request is an additional \$200,000 for computer replacement, \$140,000 for projected increases in utilities and projected insurance increases. He also reported that the current year impact fees received to date are behind the current impact fees budgeted; therefore, a 10% increase is being requested from the County to off-set this difference projected in the upcoming year.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE BUDGET REQUEST

Craven Community College President, Scott Ralls, presented the proposed FY 2005-2006 budget and the funding request to the County. He reported on the economic impact of Craven Community College's role in the community. He stated that the proposed request to the County is \$322,000 over last year, reflecting a 12% increase. Infrastructure challenges addressed in the budget include technology upgrades to develop a fiber optic loop and upgraded parking. He also indicated that increases would be reflecting County funded employee supplements.

REQUEST FOR ADOPTION OF PROPOSED INSPECTION FEES

At the Board's regular session on April 4th, Planning Director, Don Baumgardner, requested that the Board consider adoption of new inspection fees; however, action was deferred. Mr. Baumgardner returned with an alternative fee schedule for the Board's consideration, as follows. He stated that the revised schedule shows a reduction in the originally proposed overall fee increase by 25%. He stated that the proposal should provide adequate revenues to cover the cost of operation.

Type of Inspection	RESIDENTIAL Alternate Fee	COMMERCIAL Alternate Fee
Building	.095/sf	.115/sf
Insulation	.0188/sf	.0188/sf
Plumbing	\$6.75/fixture	\$9.50/fixture
Mechanical	.0475/hsf	.075/hsf
Electrical		
Temp Pole		
0-50 amps		.475/amp
50-100	\$55	
101-200	\$68	
201-300	\$80	
301-400	\$90	
Over 400 amps		
Renovation	\$4.50/1000	\$6.75/1000
Deck	\$35	
Pool	\$35	
Re-Inspection	\$35	
Mobile Home		
SW	\$55	
DW	\$95	
TW	\$120	
Dock	\$35	\$35/1 st slip
No Permit Viol		
Re-Inspection	\$35	
Demolition	\$35	
Sign Permit	\$35	
Minimum Fee	\$35	

Commissioner Sisk moved to approve adoption of the revised fee schedule, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

APPOINTMENTS

Craven Regional Medical Center

The Board received information that the terms of Ed Armstrong, Lonnie Pridgen, Jimmy Morris, Sydney Barnwell, Robert Eaves and Johnnie Sampson, Jr. were due to expire on May 31st. Commissioner Staton moved to appoint all of the members whose terms are due to expire, seconded by Commissioner Harper. Commissioner Allen moved to excuse

Commissioner Sampson from the vote, seconded by Commissioner Brown and unanimously carried. The original motion carried unanimously, with Commissioner Sampson abstaining.

Social Services Board

The Board was advised that the term of Ethel Sampson on the Craven County Social Services Board is due to expire on June 30th and that she, having served two terms, is not eligible for reappointment. Commissioner Sampson nominated Dorothy White. There were no other nominations and Commissioner Staton moved that Ms. White be appointed by acclamation, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

Eastern Carolina Council of Governments

The Board received a request from the Eastern Carolina Council of Governments that Mr. James Jackson be reappointed as a member representing the general public. Commissioner Sampson moved to approve the request to reappoint Mr. Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Staton and unanimously carried, with there being no other nominees, and Mr. Jackson being appointed by acclamation.

Havelock Library Board

Commissioner Allen advised the Board that Ms. Fran Batista has recently resigned from the Havelock Library Board due to health reasons. He nominated Pat Coleman to serve the unexpired term of Ms. Batista and, there being no other nominations, moved that she be appointed by acclamation. Commissioner Staton seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

County Attorney, Jim Sugg, presented a request for disposition of County property located at Fairfield Harbour, lot #147 in the Jamaica section. He advised the Board that there is an interested buyer who is willing to bid the amount of the County's tax value, \$9,750 for the parcel. He asked that the Board authorize him to proceed at public auction to dispose of the property with a minimum starting bid of \$9,750. Commissioner Staton moved to authorize the County Attorney to put the parcel No. 2-054-147, lot 147 Jamaica, Fairfield Harbour, up for auction, with a minimum starting bud of \$9,750, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager, Harold Blizzard, asked that the Board go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(4) concerning industrial prospects and economic incentives and pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) concerning a personnel matter.

At 8:45 p.m. Commissioner Morris moved to go into closed session, as requested, seconded by Commissioner Harper and unanimously carried.

At 10:00 p.m. the Board returned to regular session. County Attorney, Jim Sugg, reported that in the matter of industrial expansion and economic incentive there had been no action taken; however, concerning an industrial prospect, the County Attorney reported that the Board was requested to set a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on June 6th concerning the disposal of 3.7 acres of property at the Craven County Industrial Park at \$25,000 per acre. In the matter of the personnel issue, County Attorney advised that the discussions regarding this matter, due to the nature of the matter, could not be divulged. By consensus of the Board a public hearing was set for June 6, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. to consider property disposition relative to an industrial prospect.

Budget Amendment

County Finance Officer, Rick Hemphill, submitted the following budget amendment, which was approved by motion of Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried in a roll call vote.

Economic Development

101-4401-367-35-00	\$25,000.00	101-4401-430-33-35	\$25,000.00
NC Eastern Region		Bosch	
TOTAL	\$25,000.00	TOTAL	\$25,000.00

Justification: Budget Metal Fabrication Flex Grant in the amount of \$25,000 to be passed through to Bosch.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Harper announced a documentary in which he had participated that was created by T.V. station WRAL concerning the Global Transpark.

Commissioner Sampson read a letter relative to new vehicle inspection requirements that will become effective January 2006. He urged citizens to embark on a writing campaign to legislatures in protest.

Commissioner Sisk protested the current gas prices and stated that there needs to be something done on a local level.

Commissioner Staton thanked Commissioners and staff for condolences during the loss of his mother. He requested a resolution asking for a speed reduction on NC Hwy. 101 at the intersection of Ferry Road. Commissioner Staton moved to approve a resolution requesting a reduction of speed limit on NC Hwy. 101, as follows, seconded by Commissioner Sampson and unanimously carried.

**SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION RESOLUTION ON NC HIGHWAY 101
AT FERRY ROAD**

WHEREAS, population growth has occurred within the Harlowe Community, resulting in increased traffic; and

WHEREAS, commuter traffic which utilizes the Minnesott/Cherry Branch ferry often speeds in the vicinity of this intersection, creating a hazard.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Craven County Board of Commissioners is requesting that the Department of Transportation reduce the speed to 45 MHP on NC Hwy. 101 within the area of the intersection with Ferry Road.

WITNESS my hand and official, on the 2nd day of May, 2005.

Commissioner Allen gave a reminder of the upcoming MCAS Cherry Point Air Show on May 6-8 and flyover by the Blue Angels on May 7th.

Commissioner Morris commented that the new vehicle inspection regulations have already begun to be implemented by the State, bringing several counties on-line at a time. Craven County is one of the last counties to be held to this new requirement. He also requested an update on Maple Cypress Landing and a potential transfer of this site to the Wildlife Resources Commission, as was discussed at the Board's meeting on November 1, 2004. Assistant County Manager, George Sawyer, confirmed that the Wildlife Resources Commission is interested in taking over this boat landing to own and operate. He stated that he is expecting an agreement from the Wildlife Resources Commission for the County's review.

Commissioner Brown thanked everyone for expressions of sympathy during the loss of his brother-in-law.

At 10:20 p.m. Commissioner Sisk moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Morris and unanimously carried.

Chairman George N. Brown, Jr.
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board